

Cedar River Anadromous Fish Committee

SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES

December 13, 2001

Meeting Time

9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Meeting Location

**Metering Building, Second Floor Conference Room
SPU Operations Control Center
2700 Airport Way South
Seattle, WA 98104**

Members Present: Bruce Bachen (SPU), Tom Sibley (NMFS), Steve Foley (WDFW), Paul Seidel (WDFW), Dennis Moore (Muckleshoot Tribe), Bill Robinson (Trout Unlimited), Sam Wright (WA Trout)

Other Participants: Joan Thomas (WDFW), Cyndy Holtz (SPU), Paul Faulds (SPU), Bill McKay (Puget Sound Anglers), Chuck Wischman (Puget Sound Anglers), John McGlenn (Tetra Tech/KCM)

I. Call to order

Bruce called the meeting to order at 9:40 AM

II. Changes in AFC membership

Bruce introduced Paul Seidel (WDFW) who is taking over for Ron Warren and Joan Thomas (WDFW).

III. Approval of agenda

Members unanimously approved the revised agenda.

IV. Minutes review and approval for November 15, 2001 meeting

Members approved the minutes from our last meeting with two changes requested by Steve.

V. Interim mitigation for coho, chinook and steelhead

Review steelhead supplementation proposal

Bruce explained that to help address concerns over the status of coho, chinook and steelhead populations in the Lake Washington Basin, the City of Seattle committed in the Cedar River Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) to fund up to \$90,000 per year for interim recovery measures for these species. The funding would be available from for eight years (2001-2008). To date, this program has funded one chinook project. Steve Foley presented a steelhead proposal developed by the co-managers that would supplement the steelhead run in the Cedar River if escapement levels are low again this year. The committee recommended postponing any decision on the proposal for a month allowing WDFW additional time to answer questions concerning the draft proposal.

VI. Cedar River sockeye hatchery program

LMA compliance on setting annual production levels

At the last AFC meeting, Bruce asked for a six-month extension for complying with the Landsburg Mitigation Agreement requirement that procedures for establishing the hatchery's annual production goals be done in HCP year 1 (end of 2001). Upon further review SPU is recommending compliance with this LMA requirement be achieved by including procedures for adjusting annual production levels in the adaptive management plan which will be reviewed by the AFC and the Parties to the LMA in 2003. He explained that adjustment of production levels is closely tied to the monitoring program and adaptive management plan. Consequently, it did not make sense to set different schedules or uncouple the development of the AMP and the procedures for setting annual production goals. Currently annual

production limits for the interim hatchery are set in consultation with the AFC and this would continue until a new approach is agreed to by the Parties.

Escapement and broodstock collection 2001

Update members on weir removal

Paul S. said the weir has been completely removed and that roughly 12 million eggs are in incubation at Landsburg. Steve added the total sockeye escapement was about 120,000 fish in 2001. He noted that the run really dropped off this year compared to last year.

Hatchery design

John provided members with the draft hatchery layout and explained the design is under review by his design team, Seattle staff, and the co-managers. He walked members through the entire layout describing the main components of the facility, noting the facility will comply with sustainable design requirements by city.

Adaptive management plan

John provided members with a draft document titled Program Management. The document proposes how adaptive management could be used to successfully to manage and guide the hatchery program. He asked members to review the organizational diagram and asked members for their input on the arrangement of the structure. He is proposing that the AFC and Parties to the Landsburg Mitigation Agreement will become the adaptive management workgroup. The main working elements of the organization structure are operational staff, a technical work group, and independent scientists. John asked members to devote some time and resources to this part of the adaptive management process so it can be as successful as possible.

VII. Landsburg fish passage update

Bruce gave members a brief update on the fish passage project. He informed members that SPU provided King County DDES with the Landsburg Fish Passage Project 90% submittal plans along with the commercial building permit on December 3, 2001. SPU will begin construction contract negotiations with the Natt McDougall Company this month and final negotiations must be completed in January so subcontractor bidding can start in February. Bruce updated members on the additional information request by KC DDES (alternative analysis) and provided a copy of the request to members. The letter dated November 14, 2001 contained 38 requests for additional analysis or information to be addressed within 30 days. He stated that SPU has spent a considerable amount of time addressing KC DDES concerns about the alternatives analysis, including more extensive descriptions of alternatives that had been rejected over years of project development. Paul Faulds gave a brief update on the hiring of Inter-Fluve, Inc. for the purpose of drafting a mitigation plan that will be acceptable to KC DDES.

VIII. Public comment (scheduled for 11:30)

IX. Information and discussion items

Cyndy provided members with a document titled Downstream Habitat Protection and Restoration Program – Project Evaluation Table. The table ranked potential restoration project sites and provided background information including location, area, and evaluation criteria.

X. Plan next agenda for meeting scheduled for January 17, 2002

XI. Adjourn